

FIELD PLANTING GUIDE
Panicum amarulum (Miami ^{shore dune} ~~panicum~~ panicum)

Description: This is a strong, perennial, rhizomatous, salt spray tolerant grass with numerous medium textured, erect stems three to seven feet plus in height. Moderate to abundant numbers of medium textured bluish-green leaves three-fourths to one inch wide by twelve to twenty inch length are produced. Lateral spread is four to eight inches radially, annually. Seedheads four to eight feet in height are produced in late July and through August. Fair quantities of firm, viable seed are produced in August or September. The seed is eagerly sought by doves and quail. Volunteer seedlings occasionally occur without soil disturbance.

Purpose: The purpose of this planting is to determine soil and climatic adaptability and feasible cultural treatments for use of this grass in coastal dune erosion control. The grass may also be utilized for ornamental purposes.

Site: The soil adaptability of this grass is not completely known. It has grown well on moderately acid to nearly neutral well drained soils and on moderately acid somewhat poorly drained soils.

Soil Preparation: For seeded plantings, the soil should be well prepared by plowing, disking and packing. Bare soil, such as dunes, could be broadcast seeded followed by harrowing or light disking to cover the seed. Vegetative plantings into bare soil can be made by use of a shovel or dibble.

Fertilization: Do not apply fertilizer to winter plantings at planting time. 400 pounds per acre of 10-10-10 or equivalent, plus minor elements, should be applied in the spring. Repeat this fertilization in mid to late summer.

Seeding Rate and Dates: 2 pounds per acre in rows 36 to 42 inch apart; 3 to 5 pounds per acre broadcast.

Tillers (sprigs) should be planted in rows six to eight feet apart and spaced about eighteen inches apart in the rows. About 5,000 tillers per acre are required for this type planting-

Plantings should be made November 1 to March 1 or June 1 to September 1 in locations where irrigation is not available,

Depth of Planting: Seed at one-half to one inch depth. Plant tillers so the roots are well distributed in moist soil and the crowns covered one-half to one inch. Pack firmly.

Responsibilities: The Soil Conservation Service will:

1. Supply the planting materials to selected cooperators.
2. Give on-site assistance in site selection and at planting time,
3. Make necessary observations.

The Cooperator will:

1. Furnish and prepare the planting site.
2. Supply and apply the fertilizer.
3. Make the planting.
4. Protect the planting from unnecessary trampling or grazing.

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